

THE BULLETIN



Overseas Press Club of America

Published at Headquarters, 1475 Broadway, New York 18, N.Y., Longacre 4-0174

CABLE ADDRESS: OPCLUBAM

VOL. 6, NO. 14

April 12, 1951

FLASH!! DATE OF ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION DINNER CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.
IT WILL BE HELD IN THE GRAND BALLROOM OF THE WALDORF ASTORIA. DETAILS IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN.

* OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OPPOSES "VOICE" APPROPRIATION SLASH;
* CURRENT BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETS FOR FINAL 1951 SESSION

Endorsing in principle the State Department's "Voice of America", the Overseas Press Club this week went on record as deplored "any attempt to weaken by insufficient appropriations the only official instrument for broadcasting to the world the principles of democracy for which the United States stands." The resolution, adopted by the Board of Governors at its final meeting before Annual Elections are held on April 26, comprises one of the last official acts to be taken by the 1950-1951 administration of President LOCHNER.

Despite the festive atmosphere which characterized the meeting, held at the home of Board Member B. MATHIEU, the Club's governing body ploughed through a sizeable agenda of unfinished business. Top on the list was President LOCHNER's annual report.

Citing 1950-1951 as an "unusual and unprecedented" year in Club history, President LOCHNER pointed out that "there has been greater all-around interest and more active participation by Members in activities than in any other previous year." Unfortunately, the Board was reminded that some of this activity was handicapped by "financial problems of a nature that no one on the Board could foresee..."

Among projects that enjoyed success, President LOCHNER reported, were:

1. Improvement of Bulletin service and coverage.
2. Program activity to the extent of 23 luncheons, three dinners, 21 cocktail parties and nine other events -- a total of 56 program activities, directed by Program Chairman SANFORD GRIFFITH.
3. Energetic work on the part of Chairman LARRY BLOCHMAN's House Committee.

(continued on Page 2)

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4. Entertainment of visiting Latin American, Austrian, Egyptian and French journalists, organized by a committee headed by DANIEL VAN ACKER.
5. Preparation and adoption of a new Overseas Press Club Constitution -- the first revision of its governing document since the Club was founded.
6. Publication of the third edition of "Who's Who in Foreign Correspondence", by JOHN ELLIOTT's Who's Who Committee.
7. Collection and editing of the Club's soon-to-be-published book, "Inside Inside: the Best Stories of Foreign Correspondents", under DICKSON HARTWELL's guidance.
8. "Much spade work" on the part of the Committee on Permanent Club Quarters.
9. Positive assistance to Members by ROBERT ECKHOUSE's Placement Committee.
10. Steps taken in the field of public affairs to support global freedom of the press and remedy conditions troubling American newsmen abroad.

On the other hand, President LOCHNER said, other Club projects failed to bear fruit despite devoted efforts on the part of Club Members. One of these was the Club's television show, which has not yet secured a sponsor despite work by "one of the ablest committees of the Club -- the Radio and Television Committee headed by the indefatigable MATTHEW HUTTNER". Likewise, the Freedom of News and Information Committee never became active, and only recently did the Public Relations Committee swing into action.

In conclusion, President LOCHNER declared that "we are confident the new roster of officers and the new Board of Governors will give content to this framework (established by the new Constitution) and attain that place in the community for the Overseas Press Club which it so richly deserves."

(The President also stated that copies of his official annual report are available at Club Headquarters to any interested Members.

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TWO REMINDERS (ONE, A GENTLE NUDGE): Make your plans now to attend the OPC's Annual Meeting and Election. The date: Thursday, April 26. The place: Toots Shor's Restaurant. The time: 8 PM. A postcard is enclosed; please note on it whether you will attend. THE GENTLE NUDGE: Your 1951-1952 Club dues were payable on April 4. To those who have remitted: thanks. To those who haven't; won't you please use the enclosed envelope to rush us your dues now???

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 @ A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT @
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The cocktail party discussion of "Scandal in Argentina" was the last scheduled program event to be arranged by the present Administration. Except for a possible special function at Club Headquarters, all energies of officers, Governors and staff during the next few weeks will be devoted to helping Dinner Chairman JOSEF C. DINE and his Committee make the Awards Presentation Dinner the climax of this year's activities.

(continued on Page 3)

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OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB BULLETIN

APRIL 12, 1951

PAGE 3

The extraordinary activity of our indefatigable Program Chairman, SANFORD GRIFFITH, has thus come to a close. Due to his selfless efforts and devoted zeal, there has never in the history of the Club been so much diversified program activity. Given larger quarters, an expanded staff and wider membership participation, SANDY would gladly have scheduled even more events.

The Overseas Press Club has been fortunate in benefiting, during the year 1950-1951, from SANFORD GRIFFITH's imagination, diplomatic skill, dependability and wide knowledge of men and affairs. On behalf of the Club and myself, thank you, SANDY!

LOUIS P. LOCHNER, President

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The Chairman of the Admissions Committee announces the election to guest membership in the Overseas Press Club of America of the following candidate:

GORDON C. HAMILTON, Newsweek Magazine

* * * * *

Oxford Book Company will shortly publish EMIL LENGYEL's pamphlet, "The Soviet Union".... IRENE KUHN's American Legion mag piece, "Why You Buy Books That Sell Communism", continues to stimulate discussion. Editor & Publisher last week reported that papers charged by Mrs. KUHN with left-wing reviewing bias were answering readers' comments with prepared statements.... A guest speaker at a Columbia University seminar conducted by the American Press Institute this week was HERBERT BAYARD SWOPE....Former APer REMBERT JAMES has joined the rewrite staff of the Los Angeles Mirror....New Member ROSS HAZELTINE is leaving the UP foreign desk to go with McGraw-Hill World News.....

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"I've had it!", says VICTOR LASKY, in abandoning his lecture career.

Claims that four speaking engagements a week for the past seven weeks (which took him as far west as Idaho) knocked him out....TOM JOHNSON is busily commuting between New York and Washington....Now doing PR work for Ringling Bros. B&B is JULIET BRIDGMAN; her Satevepost piece, "Here Come the Elephants", is in the May 5 issue....

Busily at work on a new book for Whittlesey House is HARRISON FORMAN....Film correspondent for Basel's Nationalzeitung, GERTY AGOSTON, recently sold some short stories to the N.Y. German daily, Staatszeitung, as well as a one-act play ("Three Persons") to Dodd, Mead & Co. for the forthcoming "Best One-Act Plays of 1950-1951"....ERIC PALMER's book about propaganda, "Ideas on a Flying Carpet", now with an agent. Meanwhile, he's helping organize the national "Export the Truth" campaign, a project originating in New Haven to induce citizens to bombard friends and relatives in Europe with letters refuting Commie propaganda....

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Worldover Press editor DEVERE ALLEN congratulating his roving African and Middle East correspondent as the first newsman to penetrate the Kingdom of Yeman since the present Imam took office three years ago. ALLEN has also just returned from a series of talks in Rhode Island for World Affairs Week at Brown University and other colleges and forums....

'Twas a fast stop-through in New York for Marion and RICHARD TREGASKIS en route for five or six weeks in Amsterdam, Indonesia and Java -- to collect film material. After several days in N.Y., he was off for Europe March 27. Recent TREGASKIS screen credits include an original story, "Force of Arms" for Warner's (starring Bill Holden) and "Wings Across the Pacific" (with Wendell Cory and Jean Evans). While here, the TREGASKIS' (how do you pluralize that?) dined with the KENNETH PORTERS, the WILL OURSIERS and GRACE CORSON....Signed with the American Book Company to produce a new children's book, "Pere Marquette", is ADELE NATHAN. ("The man, not the railroad", she says)...GEORGE FIELDIN ELIOT back from Europe and off on a lecture tour through Kansas and Oklahoma....

Des Moines public relations counsel FRANK MILES is scheduled to deliver 11 high school commencement addresses in Iowa next month. Subject: "Where Do We Go from Here?". He also conducts a monthly broadcast over Station WHO and WHO-FM for the Iowa Department of the Disabled American Veterans, which in the last three months has brought him letters from listeners in 21 states....LEWIS B. SEBRING, JR., has resigned as public relations director of Union College Schenectady, to do historical research. He retains his post as college alumni mag editor. SEBRING went to Union in 1949 after 20 years as a member of the New York Herald Tribune editorial staff....

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BINDER CONGRATULATES CLUB
ON RESOLUTION OPPOSING UN
INFORMATION FREEDOM PACT

An Overseas Press Club resolution opposing the UN's Draft Convention on Freedom of Information (The Bulletin, April 5) drew applause this week from Carroll Binder, editorial editor of the Minneapolis Tribune and U.S. representative on the 14-nation com-

mittee that prepared the controversial document. "This is to express my deep appreciation to you, SANFORD GRIFFITH, and the Board of Governors of the Overseas Press Club for the splendid resolution on freedom of information," Binder wrote President LOUIS P. LOCHNER. "I want to thank you for the extremely kind reference to me as well as for the discerning position the Club has taken on this vital issue."

The Draft Convention, opposed by the U.S. and the Soviet Union, is now being circulated to United Nations member-nations for comment.

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LARRY LESUEUR, UN correspondent for CBS, spoke last week before a world affairs forum sponsored by the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences on "Can the United Nations Survive a War?"....Back last week from a special U.S. cultural mission to Guatemala was BEN GRAUER of NBC....Maj. JACOBUS TenBERGE, The Bulletin's Tokyo correspondent, readying a book on women in war. The work, to cover World War II and the Korea fracas, will give anecdotes and human interest yarns of WACs, nurses, Red Cross and USO gals and femme war correspondents....

SUMMER SUBLET: From May through August, a one-and-a-half-room furnished apartment in London Terrace on West 23rd Street. \$110 per month. Telephone ALgonquin 5-4706 from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M.

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"The humorous Mr. BERT BRANDT, Acme Newspictures' roaming photographer, who is worth his salary just as a goodwill ambassador even if he never makes a picture" (quote courtesy of Editor & Publisher), a fortnight ago wowed students at the 10th annual Short Course in Press Photography sponsored by Kent State University, Kent, Ohio. He related his coverage of the Shirley May Frances channel swim bid, and more recent experiences in Argentina...Add Prize-Winning-Colleagues: War correspondent KEYES BEECH of the Chicago Daily News who on April 14 receives a special award at the Chicago Newspaper Guild's Page One Ball....

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BEN GROSS, radio-tv editor of the New York Daily News, (in collaboration with Charles Zerner of the New York Times) has sold a comedy of newspaper life, "What This Town Needs", for fall production on Broadway. The play, to be presented by Kafzka & Van Kirk, tells in satirical form the impact of a sensational murder trial on a small town near Manhattan....Off last week on a four-month African tour, including the Belgian Congo and Nigeria, were ELIOT ELISOFON of Life and Mrs. E. Just back from a three-month trip to Germany, where he worked on documentary scripts for the HICOG film program, is RICHARD HANSSEN, scripter for RKO-Pathe....

Who was first to cross from Greece to Yugoslavia on a visa after the war?

RUTH FISHER says it was Constantine Hadjiargyris of the Christian Science Monitor (this year). The Country Gentlemen's JOHN STROHM claims priority for crossing "in the fall of 1946". And now HAL LEHRMAN speaks up: "There may have been someone ahead of me, too -- but I crossed in April, 1946 -- with a visa signed by Mosite Pijade, Tito's chief braintrustor".

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BANGKOK DATELINE:-- (Special to The Bulletin) -- Here in Bangkok is the only woman editor of an English-language newspaper in Asia. She is Christine Diemer of the Bangkok Tribune. An American with years of newspaper experience abroad, she was with the Army in Europe during the war and also worked for years with Reuters in China. She recalls Overseas Press

Club dinners, and knows many of our oldtime Members from Paris, Shanghai and way stations. Her Tribune is the main English-language competition for her friend, ALEXANDER MACDONALD, American editor of the Bangkok Post. She publishes a morninger; MACDONALD's is an afternoon paper. While MACDONALD is a close friend of former Prime Minister Pridi, who headed Thailand's underground during the war, Mrs. Diemer's paper is identified with the present Prime Minister Pibun.

There is also in Bangkok another English-language daily, Liberty, an afternoon paper usually considered as representing the Indian-British point of view. James Robinson, a young American, edited the Bangkok Tribune when it was launched a few months ago, but soon was sent to Korea where he is handling public relations for Thai troops there. -- (EDWARD HUNTER).

HONGKONG DATELINE: -- (Special to The Bulletin) -- Threats to commit violence and even to kill Chinese newsmen in Hong Kong who are anti-Communist, or who do not present the pro-Red line, are appearing in newspapers and magazines of this British colony. This is a further step in the chain of terror tactics. All that remains now is for an actual assassination to occur. And this correspondent believes it is coming.

The situation has become so acute, with British authorities pursuing an appeasement policy, that even the British-owned afternoon Hong Kong Telegraph has protested. A front page editorial recently declared: "British diffidence about interfering with freedom of speech, thought or political opinion has permitted publication in Hong Kong over a long period of subversive Communist propaganda and of at least two Chinese newspapers whose extremist sympathies go undisguised....And when a locally published newspaper openly warns Chinese journalists in the Colony, who are not indoctrinated in Red philosophy, of the punishment reserved for 'counter-revolutionaries,' official attention is demanded.

"It is easy to believe that no Hong Kong newspaper carries authority to issue such a warning, but, whether or not outside inspiration is involved, it cannot escape being characterized as attempted intimidation.....The most drastic measures available are possibly not necessary, but repetition of anything parallel cannot be tolerated."

While the editorial closed with the words, "cannot be tolerated", Chinese in Hong Kong were reading or buying in Chinese-language bookshops such pro-Communist publications, published in Red China, as "Cartoon Propaganda Reference Book". In this textbook (for artists, cartoonists, stage designers, etc.) the approved manner of representing Chinese Red soldiers is depicted. One sketch shows a Chinese Communist guerrilla in Malays crushing an Englishman's head with a stone.

Almost every Chinese-language bookshop in Hong Kong is Communist, registered in Canton. Each sends two copies of every book it issues -- when connected with a publishing house -- to Canton for censorship. The British know this and know, too, that it makes "freedom of speech" a farce in the Colony, particularly with the help given the pro-Reds by the authorities. They have, for instance, forbidden newspaper hawkers to sell magazines. This ban hits anti-Communist magazines primarily, and was started only when anti-Red magazines began to publish here and gain popularity. Among those included in the ban are Time and Newsweek. -- (EDWARD HUNTER).

THE OVERSEAS TICKER

TOKYO DATELINE: -- (Special to The Bulletin) -- Two new additions to the AP staff here arrived April 3. They are Robert R. Otey, new bureau photo editor, and Robert Schutz, photog. Another new arrival is E. J. Kahn, Jr., for The New Yorker....PAUL SMITH, editor and general manager of the San Francisco Chronicle, checked in March 31 on a tour of the Far East and Korea war front....KEYES BEECH, Chicago Daily News, returning Stateside this week....

Russell Day and Clete Roberts of Station KIAC-TV (Los Angeles) hit Tokyo on March 30. Clete found several old friends in the Tokyo Correspondents Club, including the Christian Science Monitor's Frank Robinson whom he knew in Australia, and Bob Vermillion of UP who covered the Italian campaign in World War II when Clete was there....Compton Pakenham of Newsweek currently in Hong Kong on a two-week special assignment.....H. D. Quigg of UP due to return to the U.S. this week....The AP's William Waugh left March 31 for Honolulu for a stop-over prior to State-side assignment. -- (JACOBUS TenBERGE). * * *

Wedding bells rang April 6 for WILLIAM G. HETHERINGTON, Newark Times foreign correspondent, and the former Rosine Madeleine Snyder. Ceremony was performed by Mayor Ralph A. Villani of Newark at City Hall. After a trip South, the couple will live in East Orange. Congratulations!GREGOR ZIEMER represented the Overseas Press Club last week as official delegate to the 55th annual meeting of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in Philadelphia. "By far the most active meeting", he reports, "was the one in which Adolf A. Berle finally succeeded in getting the stage away from Juliusz Katz-Suchy, Polish representative at the UN, after the latter delivered an inflammatory speech"....MARY HEATON VORSE recently covered the United Auto Workers convention for The Nation....

HARRY T. BRUNDIDGE, who televised the Kefauver hearings for the combined television industry, now has his own TV show -- "BRUNDIDGE--Crime Report"-- over WPIX Mondays from 8:30 to 9 PM. Program is also being filmed for national distribution....In for a fast "hello" at Club Headquarters this week was CHARLES L. COLTMAN, regional information officer in Bangkok for the UN's Food & Agriculture Organization....

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STANLEY ROSS is selling his farm near Elkton, Md., and will move his family back to the Brooklyn Heights home. "Anyone who wants to buy a second-hand dream (slightly tarnished) settling down on a dairy farm, can move in cheap," he says....Have you volunteered yet to help with secretarial work in connection with the Awards Presentation Dinner? If not, please phone Janice Griffiths at Club Headquarters (Longacre 4-0174)....Off on tour again (to Dayton, Pittsburgh, Boston, Rochester, Scranton and Washington) is lecturer HAL LEHRMAN....

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Editor: RALPH H. MAJOR, JR. Editorial Board: WAYNE RICHARDSON, chairman, VICTOR LASKY, TOM MALLEY, JOHN A. MOROSO. CHARLES ROBBINS, JOSEPH J. WURZEL. Special Correspondents: DAVE RICHARDSON (London), DAVID SCHOENBRUN (Paris), DOROTHY N. S. RUSSELL (Frankfurt), JOSEF ISRAELS II (Vienna), GEORGE AXELLSON (Stockholm), JOSEPH ROSAPEPE (Rome), JACOBUS TenBERGE (Tokyo), EDWARD HUNTER (Hong Kong), DAVID BOGUSLAV (Manila), Mrs. PERCY WOOD (New Delhi), JOHN WILHELM (Mexico City).

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